

**Alexandria Electoral Board
Minutes for July 18, 2017 Meeting**

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m. Present were two members of the Alexandria Electoral Board (Bruce A. Brown and Jack Powers), Anna Leider, General Registrar, Eric Spicer, Elections Administrator, and Curtis Chandler, a member of the Electoral Board for the City of Fairfax. Susan B. Kellom, Secretary of the Alexandria Electoral Board, joined the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

Electoral Board Reports

Mr. Brown and Mr. Powers discussed the annual State Training that they attended with Ms. Kellom and staff from June 20 to June 22, and agreed that they were disappointed with some of the content of the training. They also expressed concern about inaccurate information that was provided during some of the sessions. Mr. Brown expressed interest in the voter line study that is being conducted by the Bipartisan Policy Center and he asked Ms. Leider if we will participate in the line study. Ms. Leider indicated that we will participate in this study in the future.

Election Officer Additions and Deletions

Ms. Leider provided the Board with a list of additions and deletions to the list of appointed election officers (Attachment). The Board reviewed the list and Mr. Powers moved to approve the election officer additions and deletions. Ms. Kellom seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Campaign Finance and Related Activities

Ms. Leider reported that campaign finance reports for all candidates with active campaign finance accounts were due on July 17, and that there was only one late filer. Ms. Leider indicated that the Friends of Chris Lewis (School Board) campaign filed their report one day late.

Review of Polling Places and Precinct Boundaries

Ms. Leider reported that City Council voted unanimously on June 24 to approve the ordinance that establishes Potomac Yard as a new precinct with the Station at Potomac Yard as its polling place. Ms. Leider also reported on the status of other site visits and research into potential polling places including the Alexandria Renew Enterprises facility which is located near Eisenhower Avenue at 1800 Limerick Street. She suggested that the Board schedule a visit to this facility. In addition, Alexandria Renew has space which could be utilized for Election Officer training.

Research and Testing of New Voting Equipment

Mr. Spicer reported that he has scheduled two demonstrations with voting equipment vendors in September for the Board and staff to compare with the VERITY system which was demonstrated by representatives of HART InterCivic in February. Ms. Leider indicated that Unisyn will provide a demonstration beginning at 9:00 a.m. on September 13, and ES&S will provide a demonstration beginning at 9 a.m. on September 26.

"I Voted" Sticker Contest

Ms. Leider reported on the possible "I Voted" sticker contest sponsored by the Arts Commission and the Office of the Arts. The Board discussed this contest and agreed that they would like to be involved in the selection process.

Saturday Schedule for In-Person Absentee Voting for the November 7, 2017 Election

Ms. Leider reported that one of the training sessions for the November 7, 2017, General Election will be on Saturday, October 21, and she recommended adding in-person absentee voting at the main office from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on that day, in addition to the two Saturdays that are legally required.

After discussing this issue, Mr. Powers moved to schedule in-person absentee voting on October 21 in addition to October 28 and November 4. Ms. Kellom seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Board Request to Close Alexandria Public Schools for all Elections

The Board discussed recent events such as the congressional baseball field shooting on June 14 which resulted in school closings, and the potential safety concerns and conflicts that arise when Alexandria schools are open on election day. After discussing this issue, the Board directed Ms. Leider to draft a letter to the School Board requesting that they close schools for all elections.

Ideas for Legislative Proposals

The Board discussed a request from Senator Adam P. Ebbin for ideas on possible election-related legislative proposals for the 2018 Session of the General Assembly. After a preliminary discussion of potential items, the Board directed Ms. Leider to draft a letter to Senator Ebbin for their review.


Executive Session

Mr. Chandler left the meeting at 12:24 p.m. At that time, Mr. Powers moved for the Board to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters and a legal issue. Ms. Leider and Mr. Spicer left the executive session at 12:54 and the Board continued the session. At 2:08 p.m., Mr. Powers moved to close the executive session. Ms. Kellom seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mr. Powers indicated that the Board discussed personnel matters and a legal issue during the executive session. Mr. Powers also indicated that no votes were taken.


Future Board Meetings

The Board agreed to schedule the next Board Meeting for 11:00 a.m. on August 8, and the Board also agreed to visit the Alexandria Renew facility on August 8. In addition, the Board scheduled a meeting for 9:30 a.m. on September 19.

Mr. Powers moved to adjourn the Board Meeting at 2:10 p.m. Ms. Kellom seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.



Susan B. Kellom
Secretary



Bruce A. Brown
Chairman



Jack Powers
Vice Chair